

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Serial No. 10/608,474

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. [Currently Amended] A method for controlled dissolution of a pharmaceutical product in a dissolution medium contained within a vessel, the method comprising steps of:

inducing a flow regime within the vessel characterized by high turbidity and minimum bulk movement of the dissolution medium; and

simultaneously mechanically dispersing solid particles of the pharmaceutical product on a bottom portion of the vessel;

wherein the steps of inducing a flow regime within the vessel and simultaneously dispersing solid particles comprise steps of:

providing a brush body adapted to sweep a bottom portion of the vessel;

repeatedly biasing the brush body into sliding engagement with the bottom portion of the vessel and;

causing controlled rotation of the brush body within the vessel.
2. [Cancelled] ~~A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the steps of inducing a flow regime within the vessel and simultaneously dispersing solid particles comprise steps of:~~

~~providing a brush body adapted to sweep a bottom portion of the vessel;~~

~~repeatedly biasing the brush body into sliding engagement with the bottom portion of the vessel and;~~

~~causing controlled rotation of the brush body within the vessel.~~
3. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim 2_1, wherein the step of causing controlled rotation of the brush body comprises driving the brush body to rotate at a speed of between 10 and 150 RPM.

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Serial No. 10/608,474

4. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim-2_1, wherein the step of causing controlled rotation of the brush body comprises driving the brush body to rotate in a selected direction.
5. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selected direction is constant for at least a duration of a dissolution test.
6. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selected direction is reversed at least once during a dissolution test.
7. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim-2_1, wherein the brush body comprises an open structure adapted to admit a flow of dissolution medium through the brush body due to rotation of the brush body within the vessel.
8. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim-2_1, wherein the brush body comprises a plurality of closely spaced filaments secured in a helical pattern about a support member.
9. [Currently Amended] A method as claimed in claim-2_1, wherein the step of repeatably biasing the brush body into sliding engagement with the bottom portion of the vessel comprises a step of providing means for applying a consistently repeatable bias force to the brush assembly.
10. [Original] A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the means for applying a consistently repeatable bias force comprises any one or more of:
 - a spring;
 - an elastomeric element; and
 - a free-sliding coupling.